

May 30, 2011

Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Michael Copps
Commissioner Robert McDowell



Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioners:

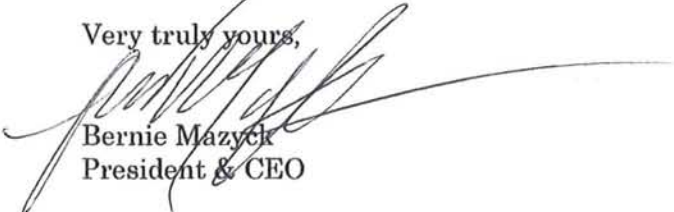
South Carolina Association of Community Development Corporations is a state-wide trade association of non-profit, community-based development corporations within the state's economically distressed communities. We place particular emphasis on promoting development in communities that have been left out of the economic mainstream, especially minority communities. Our mission is to raise the quality of life for low-wealth families and communities through grassroots leadership development, access to capital, advocacy and technical assistance.

An important part of our work is educating stakeholders on their role in creating opportunities and overcoming obstacles for community-based economic development throughout the state of South Carolina. Many of our rural communities can not access opportunities for economic development because they can not take advantage of high-wireless technology. Currently their access is limited and as a result they can not access the latest information related to health, education, job training, and entrepreneurial opportunities. High-speed internet is critical to economic competitiveness and our quality of life. Telemedicine and smart grids have enormous potential, but they will remain beyond the grasp of thousands of South Carolinians unless we accelerate the buildout of true high-speed broadband.

For these reasons and more, we are supportive of the proposed merger of T-Mobile and AT&T, because we see it as an example of business taking the initiative to provide an important service to underserved and rural communities – in this case access to high-speed wireless service. With access to broadband in home, at school and at work, these communities will have the tools they need to be active participants in their economic success stories in the future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Very truly yours,


Bernie Mazyck
President & CEO